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PATENT 5181-63300/P4969 S 30

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: Filed: August 3

ion No.: 09/653,229 August 31, 2000

Inventors:

Saulpaugh et al.

Title:

MESSAGING GATES IN

A DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING

ENVIRONMENT

Examiner:

Maniwang, Joseph

Group/Art Unit:

2142

Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-63300

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Printed Name

January 26, 2004

Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 1, 2003

9999999999

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

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Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of December 1, 2003, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.